

Application No. 10/602,289
Amendment dated April 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 10, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 5 and 12. These sheets, which include Figs. 4, 5, 11 and 12, replace the original sheets including Figs. 4, 5, 11 and 12.

Attachment: Two Replacement Sheets
Two Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

Status Of Application

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 2-4, 10 and 13-21 have been withdrawn due to a previous restriction requirement.

Claim 5 is object to because of informalities.

Claims 1, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Application Publication No. US-2002/0030773 A1 to Endo et al. (“Endo”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,418,631 to Tedesco (“Tedesco”).

Claim 5, as best understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of International Application Publication No. WO 00/08519 A2 to Khazova et al. (“Khazova”).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Khazova.

Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,281 to Abbott et al. (“Abbott”).

The acknowledgement, in the Office Action, of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and that the certified copy of the priority document has been received, is noted with appreciation.

Drawings

The indication, in the Office Action, that the Examiner has objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) to Figs. 5 and 12 filed on June 24, 2003, is noted. Formal Replacement Drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d) for Figs. 5 and 12 are being submitted herewith in which the reference numerals 230c, 530a, 530c, and 230a have been removed. The reference numeral 330b has been removed in Paragraph [0036], line 3. Applicants respectfully request the approval of the attached Formal Replacement Drawings for Figs. 5 and 12.

Claim Amendments

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended to more accurately describe the claimed invention. This change does not introduce any new matter.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

The rejection of claims 1, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

Claim 1 requires, in part, “a reflection type hologram . . . the reflection type hologram having diffusing properties.”

The Office Action asserts that Endo discloses a transmission type hologram having diffusing properties. In reality, Endo discloses only a traditional transmissive diffuser plate. Endo does not disclose or suggest that this transmissive diffuser plate is a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties,” a requirement of claim 1. For this reason, the Office Action combines Endo with Tedesco, asserting that Tedesco discloses a reflection type hologram. Tedesco, however, discloses a holographic diffuser (43) used in conjunction with a reflecting layer (44), *see* col. 3, lines 66-68. Thus, Tedesco, like Endo, does not disclose or suggest a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties,” a

requirement of claim 1. As the properties, and thus recording processes, are quite different between a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties” and a simple holographic diffuser, the combination of Endo and Tedesco does not disclose or suggest each element of claim 1. Therefore, the combination of Endo and Tedesco does not render obvious the apparatus of claim 1. Claims 11 and 12 depend from nonobvious claim 1 and are thus nonobvious for at least the same reason.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 5, as best understood, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Khazova, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

As discussed above, the combination of Endo and Tedesco does not disclose a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties,” a requirement of claim 1, from which claim 5 depends. Khazova similarly does not disclose a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties.” In one embodiment, Khazova discloses a “holographic off-axis diffuser” combined with a reflective layer, thereby creating element 61’ of Fig. 19, *see* page 60, lines 9-11. Specifically, Khazova discloses a two-part element 61’ by stating “the reflective layer 61’ of Figure 19 also incorporates a holographic off-axis diffuser...,” *id.* In other words, Khazova discloses the same configuration disclosed by Tedesco in which a holographic diffuser is combined with a separate reflective layer. As discussed above, forming a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties” is a different process than forming a holographic diffuser due to their different properties, and thus one clearly does not disclose or suggest the other. In sum, the combination of Endo, Tedesco and Khazova does not disclose or suggest each limitation of claim 1 and thus cannot render claim 1 obvious. Claim 5 depends from nonobvious claim 1 and is thus nonobvious for at least the same reason.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 5, as best understood, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Khazova, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Khazova, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

The discussion regarding claim 5 is equally applicable to claim 6 as the combination of Endo, Tedesco and Khazova does not disclose or suggest each limitation of claim 1 and thus cannot render claim 1 obvious. Claim 6 depends from nonobvious claim 1 and is thus nonobvious for at least the same reason.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Khazova, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Abbott, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

As discussed above, the combination of Endo and Tedesco does not disclose a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties,” a requirement of claim 1, from which claims 7-9 depend. Abbott similarly does not disclose a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties” as a part of the holographic projection screen apparatus. Fig. 3b includes a reflector means 60, *see* col. 10, line 62. The holographic transmission diffuser element is the screen 10 of Fig. 3b, *see* col. 4, line 66 to col. 5, line 3. In sum, the combination of Endo, Tedesco and Abbott does not disclose or suggest a “reflection type hologram having diffusing properties”, a limitation of claim 1 and thus cannot render

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claim 1 obvious. Claims 7-9 depend from nonobvious claim 1 and are thus nonobvious for at least the same reason.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Endo in view of Tedesco as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Abbott, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin LLP Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee,

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and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin LLP Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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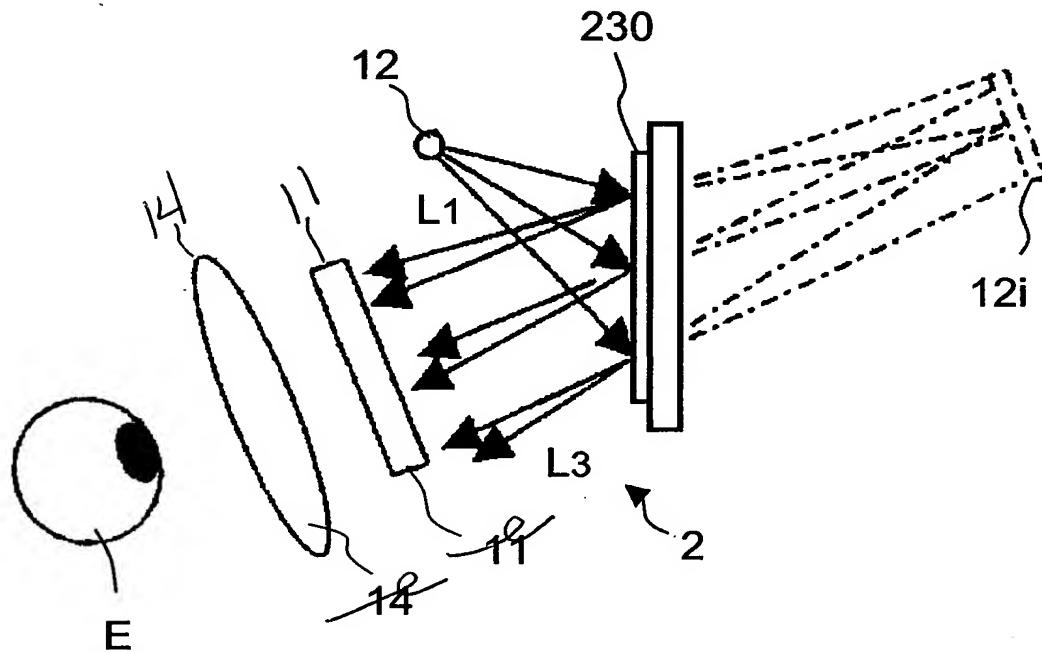


Fig. 4

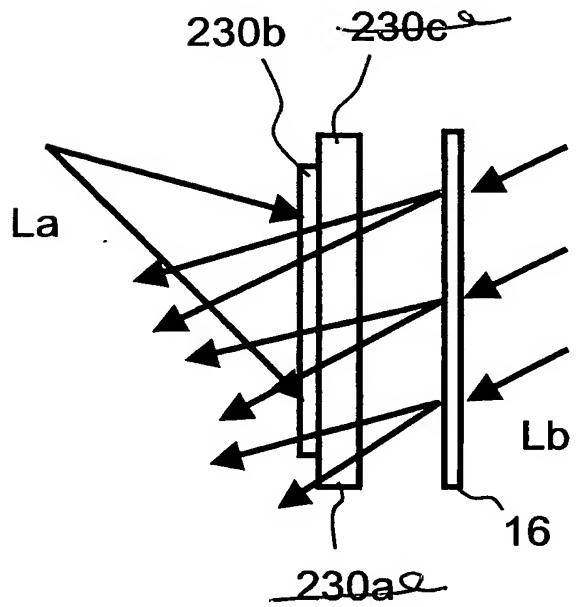


Fig. 5

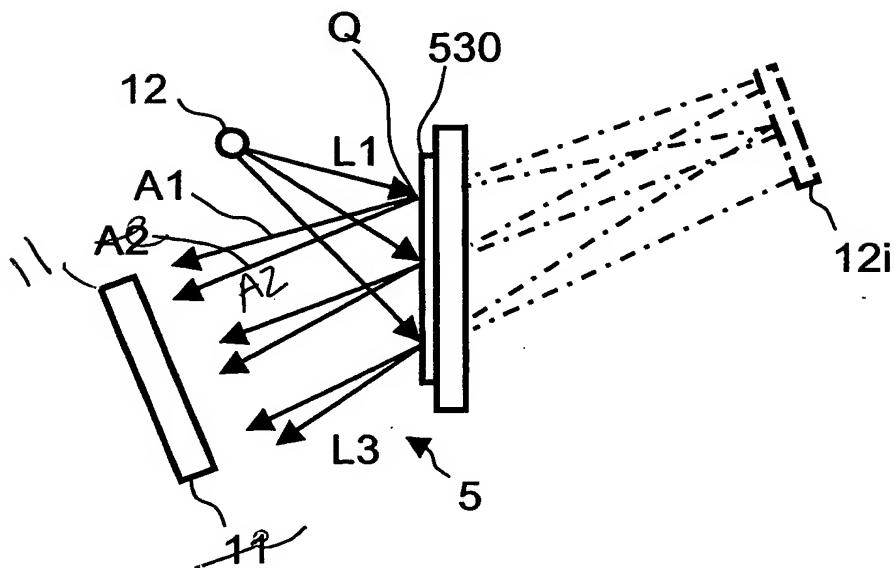


Fig. 11

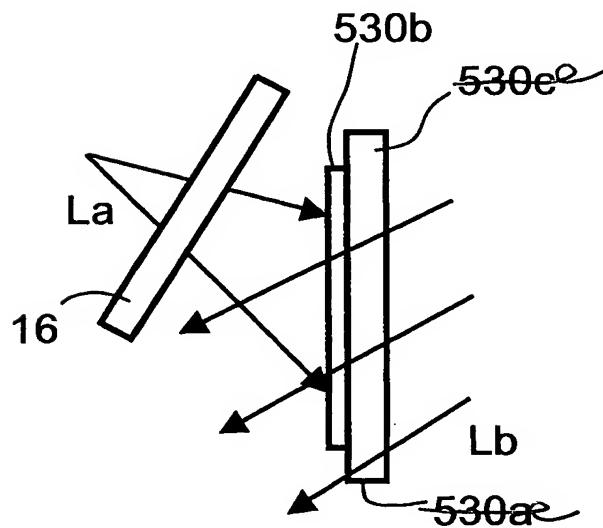


Fig. 12